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ACROSS / A14

**5 kidnap
suspects killed
in shootout**

NEWS / A5

**'Alabang Boy'
pleads not guilty
to drug charges**

SPORTS / A16

**Sixers steal
Game 1; Lakers,
Hawks soar**

WORLD / A22

**Boycotts put
UN racism meet
in disarray**

SEC revokes license of another preened firm

By Christine G. Arendata

ANOTHER PREENED FIRM IS IN TROUBLE.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has revoked the license of Prudential Place Inc. to sell prepackaged plans because of a deficiency in its trust fund.

SEC REPORTER/AN

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS. FEARLESS VIEWS.

Sunday, April 21, 2008

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Comelec eyes YouTube stardom to lure voters

By Philip C. Tubasa

FIRST IT WAS ROCK star Arnel Pineda. Then came child singer Charice Pempengco. Maybe the next Pinoy YouTube sensation will be the Comelec on COMELEC 4.11



ABORTED TAKEOFF An air ambulance with five persons onboard lies at its belly at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport's Runway 24 after its left tire burst during takeoff at around 8 p.m. Sunday night. Rescue workers took three hours to remove the Wedgwood II aircraft, leaving the control tower in delay and divert nearly 40 departing and arriving flights.

4th Cha-cha mode bared

War erupts on Senate floor: Villar vs Lacson

By Christine G. Arendata

THE LONG REMARKING AND-ROUSING finally boiled over on the Senate floor yesterday.

Sen. Miroy Villar took on his nemesis, Sen. Paolo Lacson, Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile clashed with Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr.

Lacson after Lacson personally served to him during the session an order, which he accepted, for him to reply in five days to the ethics complaint against him. Villar took to the floor to denounce allegations his real estate empire had benefited from the CS road extension project.

"Double funding" was allegedly expertly inserted in the budget for the project.

I am not afraid of anyone and I am ready to defend myself," is what Villar reportedly said as he faced his colleagues and told them he had huge business for long.

He said he was speaking to dispel talk that he could not defend himself and that alleged-



INTERIOR Secretary Rosendo Puno (left) with Negrosense vice chair Eduardo Escoto (2nd from left), announces the takeover by the NBI of the investigation of the death of Ted Falcon's wife.



KRTS Young (right), Ted Falcon's daughter, stands with Man sponsored by ABS-CBN for her mother's trial. The Man was celebrated by Fr. Cabang (left). At center is network big boss Golly-Lapaz.

QCPD stripped of Failon wife's case

By Tere Quintana

POLICE ACCUSED OF ABUSE of authority while investigating the death of news-commentator Ted Failon's wife got a slap yesterday from the National Police Commission.

Napagunat decided to hand

over to the National Bureau of Investigation the case of Trinidad Escog, who died a day after a bullet was fired in her hand in the Failon house Wednesday.

The broadcaster, also known as Mañanagang's Failon, was

'Go ahead, Mama, run with Pancake'

By Nikita Dizon

AT 21, KARE CUYO HAS TO be a pillar of strength for her grieving father, Ted's son and the son of her family as she tries to cope with the loss of a mother

also loved.

"It is not easy to be in this position. I have to carry my family, my dad's family, my son's family," Kare told ABS-CBN officials and staff who surrounded her.

COMBINED/81

Notter bringing home coco shell bowl, cane

By Kristine L. Alava

MIRO ANDREAS NOTTER leaves for his Geneva home today he will carry with him not only the memories of his terrible 30-day captivity, but also the mem-

ory of his life in the Jolo forest. Gens Pang, deputy secretary general of the local Red Cross, said the Swiss staff of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) planned to take with him the coconut shell he

used for eating and the walking stick his Abu Sayyaf captors made for him.

"He wants to bring his things with him, the coconut shell, the cane, the coconut shoes they gave him. He was even looking

for them," Pang told reporters yesterday.

"The Abu Sayyaf made the cane for him when he said it would be better if he had one," she said.

NOTTER/41

Nograles measure confuses opposition

By Gil C. Cabrerang Jr.

SPEAKER PROSPERO Nograles yesterday proposed a "fourth mode" in amending the Constitution, causing confusion among opposition lawmakers at the start of debates on Charter change (Cha-cha) in the House of Representatives.

Nograles said his "innovative" approach would treat House Bill No. 737 as an ordinary legislation in which the House and the Senate vote separately on its merits.

A three-fourths vote of each chamber is needed to pass the measure, he said. By contrast, bills ordinarily need a simple majority of the members of each chamber to be enacted.

Nograles said he took this approach to personally "safeguard" his bill, which seeks to amend the Constitution's economic provisions, from being co-opted for other goals, such as extending the term of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Nograles said he expected his proposed mode to be questioned in the Supreme Court.

The Speaker's "fourth mode" is different from the proposal of the group of Congressmen that

THE CHA-CHA/41

2 RP teeners rule int'l sudoku tilt

By Jerry E. Espinosa

TWO PHILIPPINE STUDENTS beat more than 100 contestants from over 40 countries to emerge as grand champion and runner-up in the just-concluded 3rd Asian Sudoku International Open competition in Bangkok, Thailand.

John Robert Wilson, 27, a second-year information technology student at St. Mary's College in Walpole, Belgium, topped the logic-based number placement



SARAH Cua and **John Wilson** best out more than 100 contestants at the 3rd Grand's Sudoku International Open competition in Bangkok, Thailand.

Rare plant, frog found in Negros Park

By Carla P. Gomez
Reporter Visayas

BACOLOD CITY—RARE PLANT AND FROG species were found by a team of environmentalists from the United Kingdom and the Philippines that conducted a two-week biological expedition to the interior of the

North Negros National Park (NNNP).

This proves the area has critical biological wealth, said expedition leader James Sawyer on Sunday and should make Philippine proud.

With a land area of 80,454 hectares, the NNNP is the largest forested area on Ne-

NEGROS PLANT/31

RP book featured in world digital library

WASHINGTON—WHEN THE WORLD Digital Library goes live on Tuesday a former US professor's vision of lowering global understanding by making natural treasures accessible to a huge audience takes a leap forward.

One of the items to be viewed in the exhibition online library—penned by the

National Library of the Philippines—is the first book ever published in Spanish and Tagalog, titled the "Diversa Christiana, in lingua española y tagala." It was printed in 1990. (See related story on Page A8).

The oldest item is an 8,000-year-old painting of birding envelopes from

South Africa.

"This is a way of stimulating people to think about the intersection of cultures," James Billington, who has headed the US Library of Congress since 1987, told Agence France-Presse, days before the launch of the library.

RP BOOK/41

'Alabang Boy' pleads not guilty to drug raps

Dr. Julius H. Auerbach

THE COURT INTERPRETING HAD TO BE
just herself (have to) assess the parties pro
and/or con (the given rights).

This latest case of the "Highway Boys," Joseph Tamm, pleaded not guilty to illegal drug possession and peddling charges in Queens City Regional Trial Court Branch 183 yesterday morning.

But the court interpreted trademarks used in, also as "wells" because level

The quickly returned board, wearing 'not guilty' blue t-shirts, to advise the court.

Presiding Judge Jaime Salazar issued a warrant for arrest directing Brown's arrest, for him from the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency headquarters in the Queen City.

Heavily congested jail

The charges were filed against Treason last month in the Queen's City court for his alleged sale of five grams of cocaine to an undercover PDRA operative in September.

40, along with Richard Brickett and Jorge Zampón, were dubbed the 'Wallasey boys' after the latter two were trolled the same night in the exclusive Montserrat.

Under drug charges had been filed against Borden and Joseph in the Mississippi prison's office.

"It seems changed with an offense punishable by a capital offense may be deemed bail only if evidence of his guilt is strong."

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República del Sur, 1988, the Commission

since Thompson's death last of 2002, allows
fact of \$200,000, but not for drug peddling
which is a non-bailable offense.

Munoz and Brown had been detained at PCBA for seven months until his arrest on Sept. 20, 2008.

Assistant city prosecutor Glenn Amick Jr. said the prosecution would not be commenting on the petition for bail, as it is intended to proceed with the trial proper during which it would present evidence against the grant of bail. With Cook's conviction

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Vulnerable

MOST PEOPLE WHO HAVE SEEN AND HEARD about the cheating done in past elections welcome the move to reauthorize the 2010 polls. But some have expressed apprehensions, saying that computerized polls could result in computerized cheating. Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano has gone as far as to propose that P100 million be set aside as an incentive for a hacker to demonstrate the weakness of the automated poll system that would be used in the 2010 elections.

EDITORIALS

The bids of increased supplies of the mounting machines will be opened on April 27. Before then, some to determine whether the various machines being offered are foolproof should be considered.

Actually, there are two urgent tasks that have to be done in the one year that is left before the 2010 elections. The first is to complete the purging of the voters' list. The way has an automated poll system but if the voters' list is not clean, the poll results will not reflect the real will of the people. There are 45 million registered voters, and of this number, about one-third, or roughly 14 million, have been struck off the voters' registry. Among those who were purged were dead voters, "fly-by" voters and "ghost" or absentee voters.

The automatic registration of some residents was completed despite the expenditure of P1 billion on the project since 2004. The Commission on Elections will be in a difficult effort to do a final cleanup of the voters' registry before May 2010.

The second urgent project is to automate the poll system, and here the Comelec will have to make sure carefully that there be no cheating and safeguards installed to ensure that automated cheating does not occur in 2010.

Some of the things the Comelec may have to do to make the automated poll system foolproof:

- Have enough information technology experts to oversee the 2010 elections. Senator Gordon Gray Chua, who has expressed the fear that if the responsibility for counting and canvassing is handed over to "software engineers," they could manipulate the results.
- A paper trail must be provided. A clear election return should be printed out after the final of Election Inspection has uploaded the machine to the server.
- Stand alone machines should be preferred. Manuel A. Alcala Jr., president of Systems Sciences Center Inc., said that if the standards for the stand-alone, a standard program could be downloaded on Election Day, the stand alone would be more reliable and secure from tampering, resulting in an electronic "Gothic horror" (malware) scenario.
- The counting machines should not be equipped with any communication capability. Alcala said that if the counting machines can send electronic election returns to the municipal servers, a person who knows the system could change the programs on the machine from a remote location.

After decades of failures with an antiquated system that took weeks to disseminate the election results, the nation may at last get to know the poll results in two or three days. But safeguards have to be taken to ensure that an automated poll system does not result in bigger and worse poll cheating.

Wide open

ANG KAPISANAN PARTY LAST WEEK ANNOUNCED that it was recruiting tomorrow for president for the 2010 elections. It listed the requirements for a candidate, including the qualifications stated by the Constitution, acceptance of the principles and platform and Code of Conduct of the party, moral uprightness, no college degree and no pending criminal case in court, a college degree and compliance with the limits on campaign spending.

Ang Kapisanan Party has adopted a new approach, in that it is accepting nominations from the people, and not just from the members of the party. The usual mode is to accept nominations from within the party and to elect its candidate in a convention or caucus. The AKP approach makes the selection process more democratic and, we hope, will result in the discovery of a good candidate who does not come from the ranks of the discredited traditional politicians. We also hope that it will also mean again a fresh twist to a politics of principles and platforms.

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THIS LOOKS BETTER
ON OTHERS
NOT ON ME.



Stampede's end?

VIEWPOINT

JOAN L. MERRAZO

THE SUPREME COURT HAS JUDGED PLAIN to reasonable in decision that attacked 14 other bills into the area of laws. This final ruling states the limits that have been imposed on the Supreme Court (SC) of nearly 100 members, a reduced "League of Cities" limited to a full court.

"The constitution of 1987, which was drafted by the Supreme Court, is the League of Cities. These bills can now claim that they are not unconstitutional."

"It is high time we return to the League of Cities," the league added. Congress should come "up with a bill providing for the complete repeal of the League of Cities."

But it's not just the League of Cities that is at stake. The Supreme Court has ruled earlier that the 30-attorney limited court in Manila, which is now in the hands of the Supreme Court, is unconstitutional. The Supreme Court has ruled that the 30-attorney limited court is unconstitutional.

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already in the works. It is a very real possibility that the 30-attorney limited court is unconstitutional.

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Politics

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AN OPEN LETTER TO THE SUPREME COURT OF THE PHILIPPINES, MEMBERS OF SENATE AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

**The honorable members of the Supreme Court, our respectable
SENATE and distinguished members of the House of Representatives:**

Again, we reiterate that we leave it to our good lawyers to argue the legal basis why our cityhood should be upheld. We pray however that the members of our highest judicial and legislative bodies provide us with a solution to extricate our cities from this dire predicament.

It is no fault of ours that we, the affected 16 cities availed of an opportunity provided for by legislative acts to transform our municipalities then into economically sound and politically viable component Cities. That was a right afforded to us by the laws that both Congress and the Senate passed in the same regular manner that any other laws are passed.

We know not and nor do we want to know how machinations were implemented to effectively amend the same Cityhood laws to be in harmony with R.A. 9009 – the 100 M. law which is oppressive and unfair. RA 9009 is an impediment to national development because it kills the hopes & aspirations of millions of Filipinos who want to improve the delivery of government services in their localities. RA 9009 is unreasonable such that it is even easier today to apply for a provincial status rather than for a city. The revenue income requirement for the province category is 50 million whereas Cityhood necessitates 100 million locally generated income.

What we know is that the city status granted to us by the cityhood laws afforded the 16 cities to post remarkable growth in remarkable time. Our rural employment measures resulted to the generation of 45,000 job opportunities in these times of economic difficulties. Education and health programs became priority, hence most of our 16 cities started investing in measures to modernize our municipal health centers into first rate general hospitals. Almost 100,000 citizens were provided with much needed health care services. Education too took a forefront role when almost 20,000 deserving and indigent youth were granted full scholarships. This is just the tip of the iceberg.

Where will we place all displaced workers in our localities? Where will we source out funds to run our local governments? What will happen to all our programmed and ongoing measures designed to improve governance? The domino effect on our LGU infrastructure is catastrophic to say the least. In this regard, even the League of Cities admit in their published advertisements that there are devastating effects in the process of unmaking the 16 cities.

There are ramifications they admit, and yet, no matter how grave and unfortunate the impact of these ramifications may have on whole communities, the simple logic is that laws have been violated and we must bear the consequences of inadvertently violating these laws.

We are all law abiding and again we say that we leave it to our lawyers to debate the niceties of the law.

However, fault us not if we tend to say at this juncture that the law is unfair.

Is it fair that only the 16 of us were singled out to be reverted back to municipal status?

We can certainly show in the proper forum that of the 117 cities under the League of Cities of the Philippines, 59 cities likewise do not meet the revenue cap of 100 million as prescribed in R.A. 9009. In fact there is even a city with only 5 million in income. Where is fairness and justice here?

Ironically and sad to say, the same cities that clamored for our reclassification back to municipality status were once municipalities themselves.

We again implore our Justices to take a deeper look into the real issues beyond bigger IRA allotments for the 117 cities. We beg our lawmakers to guide us and provide us with a feasible solution to the effects of laws made by one of the pillars of Philippine democracy which is Congress.

Heed our plight. Guide Us. Do not kill the dreams & aspirations of our constituents.

We are as Filipinos as the citizens of the big and rich cities.

Respectfully yours,

(SGD) ALEXANDER "AYEK" PIMENTEL

City Mayor
Tandag City
Official Spokesperson
League of 16
Red Mountain Lodge 241
District 13 A F and am

THE LEAGUE OF 16

Mayor Michael L. Cari of Baybay in Leyte; Mayor Celestino Martinez of Bogo in Cebu; Mayor Cecilio T. Uy of Catbalogan in Samar; Mayor Alexander T. Pimentel of Tandag in Surigao del Sur; Mayor Fidel V. Anada, Jr. of Borongan in Eastern Samar; Mayor Faustino A. Slang of Tayabas in Quezon province; Mayor Roderick H. Furigay of Lantian in Basilan; Mayor Camilo Larminan, Jr. Tabuk in Kalinga Apayao; Mayor Magdalena A. Aza of Bayugan in Agusan del Sur; Mayor Jeffrey Jubal C. Nalapa of Batac in Ilocos Norte; Mayor Michelle Marie Denise N. Rabat Mali in Davao Oriental; Mayor Ernesto Reyes of Guilguingan in Negros Oriental; Mayor Mayor Dale B. Conera of Cabasaran in Agusan del Norte; Mayor Patrick Bercenas of Carcar in Cebu; Mayor Emerita Almarante of El Salvador in Misamis Oriental; and Mayor Valdenar M. Tiong of Naga in Cebu.

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IMPASSE IN RODRIGUEZ, RIZAL

Mayor says only courts can make him leave office

By Of Yap

SUSPENDED RODRIGUEZ MAYOR PEDRO CUEPPO YESTERDAY SAID HE is prepared to step down once the courts declare his preventive suspension to be "final and executory," but will stay held up in the town hall until then.

"I will step down if the court says the suspension order is final and executory," he said in a phone interview.

Cueppo added that the fact that the Investigative Committee is still hearing his second hearing for noncompliance with the 10-day preventive suspension order issued against him shows that it is not yet final and may be contested in court.

According to the rules of the Investigative Committee, if the suspension order is declared executory, he will still belong to the town to the Supreme Court. "I will exercise all the legal options that are open to me," he said.

At the same time, he included the statement of Vice Mayor Jesus Cruz—who was appointed by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) as acting mayor—into his suspension order, since his suspension of office was now being recognized as evidenced by the action taken by local officials, who have made initial for his signature on the payroll forms for the town employees.

"Last night we just played it safe since he also said that a

judge saying he is the mayor," Cueppo said.

As of yesterday, Cueppo continued inside his office, adding, he said, in his mind, expects to do more of the town by signing documents that the mayor is supposed to sign.

Last week, the DILG issued the suspension order on Cueppo and three other officials during charges of grave abuse of authority and gross incompetence for the dissolution of houses on account of local intransigence in 2002.

Also ordered suspended from their current public positions were Rodriguez municipal engineer Fernando Flores, Salvador Mandado, a town engineer, and Renato Cruz, a police officer who Cueppo said was killed in an accident in 2004.

This is the second time that Cueppo has been ordered suspended. In March 2006, he was suspended by the DILG provincial board for raising the levee and taxes on landfills being operated by his government. The suspension order was lifted by the Palace after he filed an appeal at the office of the President.



DRAGON BOAT RACE

Dragonboat teams race to the finish line in Sunday's 1st Dragon Boat Regatta held at the Manila Ocean Park's Sunset Quay. The team from Cavite won the regatta followed by Origo Pilipinas, Makabusi Dragon and Manila Ocean Park.

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Rose Ann R. Schwartz

Postpone project on road linking Cavite to Metro, senator asks water firm

TO PREVENT SIX MONTHS OF heavy traffic on Aguinaldo Highway—the major thoroughfare in Bacoor town that connects the province of Cavite to Metro Manila—Sen. Ruffalo "Bong" Revilla Jr. yesterday asked a water utility firm to put off the implementation of its 3.3-kilometer pipeline project in the area.

Revilla said that preliminary study of the Magdalen River Services Inc. project resulted in a 10-km long traffic jam which lasted for nearly four hours.

"We going to be hell. We're just going through Holy Week and we're going to make more problems," the senator said.

The last solution is to postpone the project," he said, adding that Magdalen should wait until the end of the year when the construction of Metro Rail Road is expected to be completed on what work is done at the Cavite Road extension in 2010.

Revilla, meanwhile, urged the Department of Public Works and Highways to postpone the Magdalen project.

It should also enter the utility firm's contract with all the necessary requirements before a permit can be issued for the project, he added.

The senator warned the DPHWH that he would hold it accountable should it issue a permit "despite the absence of a satisfactory traffic plan."

"In the meantime, I expect the DPHWH to halt the project. They shouldn't wait for me to personally go down. You just can't start digging without thinking about the consequences," Revilla said.

The senator added that the implementation of the project would mean the closure of two of the highway's four lanes, resulting in heavy traffic since the alternate route would not be able to accommodate the volume of traffic that would be displaced.

"There are intermodal roads that are capable of carrying more than 100,000 vehicles a day," he said, adding that even the side streets in Bacoor were clogged during preliminary days.

Nato naval ships foil pirate attack on tanker

NABOUB—NATO NAVAL SHIPS foiled a pirate attack on a Somali-registered tanker, sinking six pirates on Sunday after a seven-hour pursuit, but a captured Nigerian vessel was headed for Somalia.

The dramatic overnight mission in the Gulf of Aden was the first since pirates on the Somali coast began attacking ships in the Gulf of Aden in late 2006. The MV *Princess Astrid* was the first when it was captured by pirates in the Gulf of Aden.

Pirates on the scene saw a British Royal Naval Auxiliary vessel, the *Wider Bay*, but it was a Canadian frigate, the *Windsor*, which got the pirates.

"The pirates who initially fired weapons and then appeared to be chasing me then all of a sudden," said a NATO spokesman, "they were gone."

"When the *Windsor* finally caught up and stopped them...I can tell there were no survivors," the spokesman added. "They were all dead."

The capture was held and questioned but could not be shared with any other officers because doing so was not within NATO's rules of engagement.

Canadian Prime Minister

Stephen Harper praised the crew of the *Windsor* for their "courageous work."

"We obviously are within our legal authority and also within our capacity," Harper told reporters on the road of the *Windsor*.

A Nigerian ship, the 10,000-ton (11,000-ton) *Princess Astrid*, was not so lucky, falling into pirate hands about 150 kilometers north of the Seychelles in the Indian Ocean.

A reconnaissance flight on Saturday by a Spanish naval ship, *Principe de Asturias*, revealed the *Princess Astrid* was being towed by a small motor boat—and was heading toward the Somali coast, some 700 km away.

The *Principe* would likely arrive there on Wednesday, said Spanish officials. They would not say if any anti-piracy ships in the area would try to intercept.

Five oil-bearing cargo ships were among several possibilities that will be examined in the coming days," said José María Rodríguez of the Spanish navy's command center.

Government ministers said it was not clear if the *Princess Astrid* was heading to the coast.

The captain of the *Princess Astrid* was in Dubai, and the crew of the cargo ship was in the Gulf of Aden, where it was being towed by a small motor boat.

Spanish naval ships, including the *Principe de Asturias*, were in the Gulf of Aden in January, facing 30 Somali fishermen in the process.

A Spanish defense ministry spokesman said a British naval vessel intercepted, keeping its gun trained on the pirates until British commando-armed soldiers took control of the boat.

"The motor boat had 25 people on board, nine of them were captured pirates," spokeswoman Patricia Molero told AFP. The remaining 16 were Somali fishermen.

They arrived and destroyed seven A-187 aircraft after and a rocket launch. But the mission was not successful.

"There could be no legal framework in place for us to be carried out," Molero explained. The law of the Sea Convention gives the right to search for pirates, but not to prevent, deter and in-

terfere with acts of piracy, but does not apply to conventional pirates and does not properly address the issue of master attacks.

Score of suspected pirates have been captured by British warships since piracy started in the Indian Ocean and Gulf of Aden in late 2007, but have been taken into custody rarely.

More have been handed over to the authorities of the British-occupied state of Puntland, a major piracy hub.

In an operation last Sunday to free the remains of a US ship held hostage on a Somali coast, American forces shot the boat and then captured the fourth, who is to face charges in New York courts.

Puntland's president, Abdirahman Mohamed Farah, on a visit to Nairobi last week, had been asked to support an international mission to set up a special anti-piracy task force comprising some 4,000 men.

British warships attacked more than 100 motorboats since the fall of Aden last year on an instance of more than 200 pirates in 2007, according to the International Maritime Bureau, which tracks piracy.



PRINCE OF ASTORIA from a helicopter on April 17 in the Gulf of Aden. The ship was captured by pirates, but was later released by British forces.

Spain hails operation that caught separatists

MADRID—SPANISH separatist forces were on Sunday that the arrest of a man suspected of leading the separatist group, the Basque Liberation Front (FLN), was a major blow to the group and would be a step toward the end of separatism in the region.

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FLN leader, arrested Sunday, suspected of leading the separatist group, the Basque Liberation Front (FLN).

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UN atomic chief warns of nuke power dangers

BEIJING—THE HEAD OF THE UNITED NATIONS warning world leaders on Monday that the world's growing appetite for nuclear energy could lead to dangers associated with waste technology and weapons proliferation.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Mohamed ElBaradei warned that the world's growing appetite for nuclear energy could lead to dangers associated with waste technology and weapons proliferation.

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Zuma gets boost from Mandela

JOHANNESBURG—SOUTH AFRICA'S new president, Jacob Zuma, has been given a boost by the late Nelson Mandela, who died Sunday, after a long campaign, the annual Springbok rugby tournament, the annual Springbok rugby tournament, the annual Springbok rugby tournament.

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Mandela's funeral in Johannesburg, South Africa, on April 22.

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DA crafting agriculture investment master plan

Honesty is the best politics

Gov't to ensure infra support as its 'equity share'

YOU KNOW IT IS BECOMING OF THE political season when you hear dissonant soundbites like the Senate.

But when a time for the Senate to have a crisis, the Senate is coming from the south, with a resolution and the number of votes is getting smaller and smaller.

At the center of the Senate crisis is Sen. Manuel Villar, who has declared he is running for the presidency of the republic in 2010.

The Senate office continues to investigate the charge made by Sen. Paolo Lopez and Sen. Amely Manalang regarding Villar's role in the alleged "Shoebuy" funding for the US road project in the Philippines.

Of course, the (DPR) refused such a case—such documents and all bills, the Senate policies, rules, ethics committee rules, but he is not in the final.

With a lot of Senate members, you can say:

BREAKTIME



Casimiro R. Banaag IV

are fighting back.

And here the whole affair ends. Justice institutions are deeply involved. But, there's still as much work to be done in the Senate as yet.

On APRIL 7, which was Tuesday at night, the Senate held its long daily work session, before the Secretary of the Senate, Francisco Torres.

It was an assembly in the form of a second police officer named Senador Villar, who is the acting director of the National Printing Office, of NPO.

When the Senate was in session on Thursday 20, it took Villar, or somebody in his office—only eight days to respond to some legal matters back home, don't you think?

little less covered all what the deputy is creative necessary for the legal affairs, go to the legal system, at all saying, well, NPO, go ahead, continue to charge you of money on printing job orders at other government offices.

Why is the NPO subcontracting? Well, it does not have the capacity to provide all the printing needs of the government.

To us, it seems that we have an officer here who is doing something that is a crime, it's right? Or maybe someone who is not doing most of the printing jobs of the government. The NPO cannot give the NPO's products. At a time, of course!

When I am saying that, the letters will be as anything to quell political matters about the NPO.

For instance, a certain A, who is said to be close to somebody in the NPO, is now proactively in business with the NPO.

By Rita T. Ochoa

THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE said that the executive was creating an investment master plan, to position agriculture as a highly profitable sector with full government backing.

In a statement, Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap said the master plan was aimed at creating private leaders in areas in agriculture with the commitment that the government would provide to "equity share" in terms of infrastructure support, such as irrigation maintenance and farm-to-market roads, production facilities, technical transfer and training, and assistance in finding markets for their products.

Yap said agriculture could only reach its full potential if the government would provide "an unprecedented level of support." He said this would provide infrastructure to invest in the sector.

Yap said he had been leading strategy meetings and master plan with senior agriculture officials, members of the Secretary's Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and with agriculture leaders considered "important" or "specific" commodities.

In a second TAG meeting at the Century Park Hotel in Manila, agriculture undersecretary proposed the reorganization of the committee board to make them international arms of the DA, the mobilization of commodity champions to spearhead investment programs for specific products such as avocados, banana and other high value crops, and the creation of commodity risk

insurance that will address concerns raised by the private sector and its own with government involvement. But, the government will not be planning their money into agriculture.

Although agriculture accounts for a fifth of the country's gross domestic product, its contribution to GDP is only 1.5 percent of the total. In the current state, private investment in the sector is minimal compared to other sectors in other industries.

Of course, the (DPR) refused such a case—such documents and all bills, the Senate policies, rules, ethics committee rules, but he is not in the final.

With a lot of Senate members, you can say:

And that is the whole trouble. For example, Sen. Aquilino Pimentel II thinks that if the body is not in session about the vehicle donor, the Senate office continues to investigate the charge made by Sen. Paolo Lopez and Sen. Amely Manalang regarding Villar's role in the alleged "Shoebuy" funding for the US road project in the Philippines.

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When the Senate was in session on Thursday 20, it took Villar, or somebody in his office—only eight days to respond to some legal matters back home, don't you think?

RESEARCHER are going around that the Department of Justice is going to review itself on the Duterte case.

That is the company called through the Department of Justice, which approved the law, which is a violation of the South Korean Expressway.

The stockholders of Duterte have been receiving small cases against each other, but the Department of Justice, which approved the law, which is a violation of the South Korean Expressway.

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Among those who signed the letter were Lorenzo, Sen. Miguel Zubiri, Sen. Gregorio Honasan and ally, Rafael Gonzales.

Thus, Villar's refusal to call for a reorganization of the committee, during the Senate session called by Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, which was supposed to take place yesterday.

But, Villar's refusal to call the committee's name as an executive, during the Senate session called by Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, which was supposed to take place yesterday.

The Senate later, in effect, renewed the legal opinion written by Villar, Villar, Deputy executive secretary of legal affairs.

Some private printing firms are acting against the NPO, which requires them to pass through the NPO for any job order from all government agencies. The NPO, of course, gives 15 percent commission to other private printing firms.

In fact, part of the NPO's 37th year made it to be about 20 percent.

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Nido Petroleum shipping Galoc oil to Korea in 2nd quarter

By Amy R. Rios

AGRICULTURE FIRM NIDO PETROLEUM Ltd. said it was exporting, or likely to do so, as much as 600,000 barrels of light crude from the Galoc oil field in northern Philippines, in the second quarter of this year.

"Agreements for the forward sale of inventory, involving 600,000 barrels, have been made with some downstream buyers in Korea—the first shipment, which involves a export contract, will be made to early July with the second will be in early June," said Nido deputy managing director James Williams.



ECONOMIC Planning Secretary Ralph Romo (left) and Rose Rabelle, director general of the Philippine Commission, during the opening of the Asia-Europe Meeting in Manila City. During the event, Rabelle said that her nation's most recent results in economic results. More than 100 senior officials from 141 countries in Asia and Europe at the event's two-day meeting.

There will be the seventh and eighth shipments made from the Galoc oil field, which is owned by Nido Petroleum (NPD) 14-Week 17.

Williams has a 22.28 percent stake in Galoc Petroleum Co. Inc. (GPC), the majority owner and operator of the Galoc oil field. GPC holds a 58.29 percent working interest in the Galoc field.

DBP loan for sugar firm OK'd

DEVELOPMENT BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES has committed to lend P1.5 billion to a leading producer of muscovado sugar.

Rose Rabelle, who heads the DBP infrastructure unit that oversees the P500-million Cagayan Agricultural Industry loan, said it is a statement that DBP extended the loan as part of its mandate to help spur development of vital industries in the countryside through loans at competitive rates.

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In a regulatory filing, Williams also disclosed that Nido received two work the proceeds from a Korean buyer for the Muscovado, while the proceeds from the April shipment are still in early July.

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The improved moving process is continuing as expected and has been demonstrated to be a significant operational improvement, with more than 50 percent up-time achieved since installation, he said.

Since it reached delivery, the field has been producing an average daily production rate of more than 14,000 barrels of oil.

Nido earlier said it expected to share in the gross revenue of Galoc oil field to reach \$40 million to \$60 million in 2009.

2 groups keen on Power Barge 118

STOCKHOLM POWER RECTOR ASSETS AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT Corp. reports the second round of bidding for the 800 megawatt (MW) Power Barge 118 is set to start in the near future.

The bidders are expected to be the two groups that entered the pre-bid conference last week were already bidding on the bidders' proposals, so there was no major discussion on the auction during the meeting.

"Overall, both parties suggested ways of making the sale financially and mutually beneficial to the government and the win-

Phys. Rev. Lett. 82, 4093 (1999)
 Phys. Rev. Lett. 82, 4097 (1999)

Julian Thomas, D. Velez

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† *exsp.* *intermedium* *longum* *exsp.*
† *exsp.* *intermedium* *longum* *exsp.*

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ROBERT REDFERN AND **KEN FENWICK** teamed up for the big screen 23 years ago in the crime drama "Now 1/2 Dead." Now, the two are reunited for "The Informers," a crime thriller which just premiered in Los Angeles.



MOVIEWORLD

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GALLERIA

1 FAST & FURIOUS 4	6 KNOWING
2 SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE	7 SEVENTEEN AGAIN
3 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION	8 QUEEN BEAGULA
4 FRIDAY the 13TH	9 MONSTERS vs. ALIENS
5 T2	10 CRANK 2

ERMITA

1 SEVENTEEN AGAIN
2 SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE
3 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION
4 FAST & FURIOUS 2
5 T2
6 MONSTERS vs. ALIENS
7 FRIDAY the 13TH

METRO EAST

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2 FRIDAY the 13TH	9 CRANK 2
3 FAST & FURIOUS	7 MONSTERS vs. ALIENS
4 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION	6 SEVENTEEN AGAIN

NOVALECHES

1 FAST & FURIOUS 4	4 T2
2 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION	
3 FRIDAY the 13TH	

PIONEER

1 SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE	5 T2
2 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION	3 FRIDAY the 13TH

NOW SHOWING

MOVIEWORLD

STA. ROSA

1 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION	1 THE SECRET OF MOONRAKE
2 SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE	3 T2
3 KNOWING	2 CRANK 2
4 T2	4 T2 ROUND

BASMARINAS

1 T2	2 FRIDAY the 13TH
2 CRANK 2	3 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION
3 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION	5 FAST & FURIOUS 4
4 FRIDAY the 13TH	6 T2
	8 SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE

ANGELES

1 FAST & FURIOUS 4	2 FRIDAY the 13TH
3 T2	4 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION

STARHILLS

1 KNOWING	6 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION
2 T2	5 FAST & FURIOUS 4
3 FRIDAY the 13TH	8 THEY NUT

BACOLOD

1 FRIDAY the 13TH	1 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION
2 T2	3 T2
3 DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION	5 FRIDAY the 13TH
4 THE LINCOLN	6 THE UNKNOWN
5 KNOWING	8 MONSTERS vs. ALIENS
6 THE SECRET OF MOONRAKE	

PACQUIAO vs. HATTON

SUNDAY - MAY 3, 2009 - 8AM

Bull's-eye for Marv

By Marisol R. Cruz

MARVIN ARISTON TRAINED SOME tournament athletes to hunt at Marikina's Greenfield Sports after his childhood.

In a short clip with Inquirer Entertainment, Marv revealed his life after he turned 30.

He heard you're not serious about archery. You, 6 years old, a different guy. You're the national team. We're preparing for the World Championships in Lima this October and the SEA Games in November. December. Archery is a sport that you start young. I was just playing for fun, until the coach asked me to join. I joined the Asian Games. But last year—the world's top players were invited.



TAKE FIVE

HABIB: Marv is the national team.

How much training is required?

I train morning, five times a week at least, with the national team. Then I work in the afternoon... the international archery club is very competitive. My focus is on concentration, not that much effort because it's not the hardest where you really have to push with the arms. Sometimes I bring my set of bows and arrows to work and practice a little.

Is there what's new with Marv's Archery? You, you can say that. It's also for doing some movies this year. I've started shooting (Star Cinema's) "LOVE" for Global Pictures with Milla. Oh, it's a love story with the film revolution in building. My character is a guy of about 30 years (Marv's) famous collector. He was a school field trip in Malaysia when he was 7.

Do you have a dream role? I think about Leonardo Di Caprio did in "Blood Diamond." I also think Tom Cruise in "Jerry Maguire" and Brad Pitt in "Tropicana."

There are all different roles.

Any plans of producing your own film?

I have a couple of ideas but I can't do it alone. I will try to find time to produce them. I have some projects, but I want to be the boss of my projects in the moment. We're opening five more restaurants in the next few months.

Where's your birthday party?

I haven't really thought about that. Happiness for me is when my work is OK, when my wife is OK, when my kids are OK, when my friends are OK.

I also hope to do more movies that all Filipinos will be proud of.

E-mail: marisol@inquirer.net

EASTWOOD CINEMAS

CRANK 2 / T2 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00	FAST & FURIOUS 4 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00	DRAGON BALL EVOLUTION / PG-13 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00
T-2 / PG-13 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00	SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE / G 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00	MONSTERS vs. ALIENS 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00

13th

Experiences the Difference

STAR KINO 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00	STAR KINO 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00	STAR KINO 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00	STAR KINO 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00
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PACQUIAO vs. HATTON

WATCH IT LIVE VIA SATELLITE

MAY 3, SUNDAY / 8AM

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

For almost 40 years, no film has defined the horror genre the way **THE EXORCIST** did...

On April 22, 2009...the genre will be redefined!

ARE YOU READY TO BE POSSESSED WITH THE FILM THAT GAVE THE REST OF THE WORLD MANY SLEEPLESS NIGHTS?

THE HAUNTING

IN CONNECTICUT

Warning: NOT FOR THE FAINT OF HEART

GRAND OPENING TOMORROW